

McCarthy-Sullivan House
3623 O Street, N.W.
Washington
District of Columbia

HABS No. DC-199

HABS,
DC,
GEO,
135-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

McCARTHY-SULLIVAN HOUSE

HABS,
DC,
GEO,
135-

Location: 3623 O Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Present Owners: President and Directors of Georgetown College. (1969)

Present Occupants: Rental tenants. (1969)

Present Use: Residence. (1969)

Significance: This nineteenth-century simple frame house forms part of the picturesque streetscape of the north side of O Street. Although altered for twentieth-century living, its early exterior character has been maintained.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: ca. 1860-1865.
2. Architect: None known.
3. Original and subsequent owners: The building is located in Square 1248, Lot 830 in Washington, D.C. (formerly Square 78, Lot 113 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown). The following is an incomplete chain of title to the land on which the structure stands. Reference is to the office of the Recorder of Deeds, Washington, D.C.

1857 James R. Gates and wife, Mary Jane to Patrick McCarthy
Deed June 27, 1857. Recorded June 29, 1857
Liber JAS 136, folio 437

1865 Patrick McCarthy and wife, Julia to Timothy Sullivan
Deed June 7, 1865. Recorded April 21, 1866
Liber RMH 14, folio 322

(Western 40 feet of Lot 113)

1866 Timothy Sullivan and wife, Bridget to John Sullivan
Deed April 19, 1866. Recorded April 21, 1866
Liber RMH 14, folio 320

(20 feet of Lot 113)

- 1867 John Sullivan and wife, Ellen to Timothy Sullivan
Deed May 6, 1867. Recorded September 14, 1867
Liber ECE 15, folio 279

(Western 20 feet of Lot 113)
- 1883 Richard R. Crawford, Ex. of Will of Timothy Sullivan
John Sullivan, Mary McCarthy (formerly Sullivan)
Elizabeth Sullivan to Jeremiah Sullivan
Deed July 5, 1883. Recorded September 10, 1883
Liber 1049, folio 368
- 1944 Josephine Sullivan, James J. Sullivan and wife, Mary
Jeremiah Sullivan and wife, Ellen A.
Deed August 19, 1944. Recorded March 21, 1945
Liber 8083, folio 271

Lillian E. Sullivan, Robert A. Cox, unmarried
Ann Marie Briggs, Regina Cox Katalinas to Abraham Aljan
and wife, Sarah E., Tenants by entirety
Deed August 19, 1944. Recorded March 21, 1945
Liber 8083, folio 271
- 1947 Abraham Aljan and wife, Sarah E., tenants by entirety
to Lorine M. Delsnider
Deed February 24, 1947. Recorded February 25, 1947
Liber 8431, folio
- 1951 Lorine M. Delsnider to President and Directors of
Georgetown College
Deed June 8, 1951. Recorded June 11, 1951
Liber 9487, folio 830

Prepared by Volunteers for the
Commission of Fine Arts
Washington, D.C.
1969

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: A simple, regular, informal house, last of its row. This house has been remodeled and added to many times, giving the side and rear elevations a haphazard quality contrasting with the regularity of its facade.
2. Condition of fabric: Good; well maintained.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: Approximately 17'-6" by 17'-6". Two bays across O Street facade. Two stories high. Two-story concrete addition across entire rear and one-story concrete block ell at northeast corner.
2. Foundations: Brick.
3. Wall construction: Wood frame, concrete block ell at rear.
4. Porches: 4' by 8' wood porch at rear of second floor. Brick stoop with iron rail at front door.
5. Chimney: One small chimney off ell at rear.
6. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: Mid-twentieth century six panel door with glass in top two panels; simple flat trim.
 - b. Windows and shutters: Eight-over-eight-light double hung wood sash on first floor, six-over-six-light double hung wood sash on second floor.
7. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: Gable, ridge running east-west; asphalt shingle covering.
 - b. Framing: Wood.
 - c. Cornice: Simple wood box cornice with hanging metal gutter.

C. Description of Interior:

Because of many additions and renovations, nothing notable remains of the original plan nor of the original decorative features.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: Westernmost of several houses of similar scale forming the north side of O Street. No front yard; ample yard in rear.
2. Enclosures: Rear yard enclosed with wood fence.
3. Landscaping: Rear yard terraced with stone retaining walls, although planting is at a minimum.

Prepared by The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
December 4, 1968

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

These records were prepared as part of a project to record structures in the western part of the Georgetown Historic District in Washington, D.C. The project was conducted by the Commission of Fine Arts with the cooperation of the Historic American Buildings Survey. The resulting documentation was donated to HABS by the Commission and published in 1970 in HABS Selections Number 6, "Georgetown Architecture - Northwest: Northwest Washington, District of Columbia". Research for the project was conducted by volunteers under the supervision of Ms. Nancy Black, staff member of the Commission of Fine Arts. Architectural information was prepared by The Office of Walter G. Peter, AIA. The photographs were taken by J. Alexander. The data was edited and prepared for transmittal to the Library of Congress by HABS architectural historian Emily J. Harris in 1979.